

Amendments to the Claims

Please replace all prior versions of the claims in the application with the following claim listing:

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A method of targeting an Fc fusion protein with interferon-alpha to a liver tissue, while reducing an effect of an Fc effector function ~~treating a condition alleviated by the administration of interferon-alpha~~, the method comprising the step of administering to a mammal an effective amount of a fusion protein comprising, that binds an Fc receptor expressed on a target cell, wherein the fusion protein comprises in an N- to C-terminal direction, an immunoglobulin Fc region and an interferon-alpha protein, wherein the immunoglobulin Fc region is derived from at least a portion of an IgG1 chain constant region or at least a portion of an IgG3 chain constant region, thereby targeting the Fc fusion protein to the liver tissue, and providing the immunoglobulin Fc region in an orientation that reduces the effect of an Fc effector function ~~to treat a condition in said mammal.~~

27. (Currently amended) A method of targeting Fc fusion protein with interferon-alpha to a liver tissue, while reducing an effect of an Fc effector function ~~treating a condition alleviated by the administration of interferon-alpha~~, the method comprising the step of administering to a mammal an effective amount of a multimeric protein comprising at least two fusion proteins, ~~wherein the multimeric protein binds an Fc receptor expressed on a target cell, and~~ wherein each fusion protein comprises, in an N- to C-terminal direction, an immunoglobulin Fc region and an interferon-alpha protein, wherein the immunoglobulin Fc region is derived from at least a portion of an IgG1 chain constant region or at least a portion of an IgG3 chain constant region, thereby targeting the Fc fusion protein to the liver tissue, and providing the immunoglobulin Fc region in an orientation that reduces the effect of an Fc effector function ~~to treat a condition in said mammal.~~

28-33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the immunoglobulin Fc region comprises an immunoglobulin hinge region.
35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the immunoglobulin Fc region comprises an immunoglobulin hinge region and an immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region domain.
36. (Canceled)
37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the multimeric protein comprises at least two fusion proteins that are linked via a covalent bond.
38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the fusion protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising:
- (a) signal sequence;
 - (b) an immunoglobulin Fc region derived from at least a portion of an IgG1 chain constant region or at least a portion of an IgG3 chain constant region; and
 - (c) an interferon-alpha sequence,
- wherein the signal sequence, the immunoglobulin Fc region and the interferon-alpha sequence are encoded serially in a 5' to 3' direction.